

Thundershowers tonight and Friday; slightly cooler Friday morning; northwesterly winds.

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WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1898.

ONE CENT

THE WAR TELEGRAPHERS

Government Operators Claim to Have a Grievance.

EXTRA WORK WITHOUT PAY

Experts in Their Profession Say They Have Been Shabbily Treated by Uncle Sam—Complaints Against Lieutenant Pierson—They Will Appeal to Mr. McKeljohn.

A feeling of discontent prevails among the telegraph operators in the War Department, who did yeoman service for their country during the war with Spain. It has as yet not taken the form of open revolt or precipitated more than several removals or resignations, but the men, with possibly two exceptions, have resolved to bring their grievances before Assistant Secretary McKeljohn, of the War Department.

Naturally conservative and secretive, these men, who knew at all times the inside history of the war, were slow to speak, even about their own affairs. Today, however, several of them spoke freely to a Times reporter on the subject of their grievances.

The assistant chief operator, Mr. S. C. Wheeler, said as to the cause of the discontent among the operators: "The first complaint came when the men were required to work on the telegraph lines a day with no time for lunch. There is no compensation allowed for extra service as there is in the commercial telegraph office, and as the men in the commercial service receive from \$5 to \$8 a month for seven and a half hours' work and 42 cents for every additional hour, there was a well-defined kick for higher wages or regular hours, not to exceed those of the employees in other branches of the Government service."

"The telegraph operators get only fifteen minutes for lunch, and work from 8 to 5 every day, Sunday included. I have worked from 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning until 11 and 12 o'clock at night, as have other members of the force. We were promised by Mr. Pierson, the lieutenant in charge, that we would be recompensed in the future. It is the aim of all men of the telegraph profession to advance, and we entered the Government service with that understanding. Now, when the telegraph business is lessening somewhat, the lieutenant in charge is taking up all the slack by making the men work longer hours, and he is not coming to his notice and discharging the men without the formality of notifying them a day ahead. There have been men dropped from the service—some of them entitled to ten and twelve days vacation with only a note, saying 'You are dropped, very sorry.'"

"Men have been denied vacations, even when they offered to find competent substitutes and leave the post justly due them. I myself have worked extra time amounting to forty-three days, for which I would have been paid by the commercial companies."

According to Mr. Wheeler, Lieut. Pierson is far from popular with the operators under him. "On one occasion," said he, "Lieut. Pierson entered the office and in a loud and threatening manner, stated that there was a traitor in the room; that he knew of it, and that he had divulged a cable message to a newspaper man to further his interests. All the men resented the imputation and signed a statement to the effect that they were not traitors. The man was refused. When we insisted Lieut. Pierson tried to laugh it over."

Another operator speaking of the matter said: "Lieut. Pierson was for years in charge of the War Department telegraph office in a nominal sense. There was nothing to do until the war came and he became the head of the department by reason of precedence, and not for any distinguished ability—the office growing, on account of the increased business, until the telegraphic bureau became a distinct department."

"It is a well-known fact that the chief signal officer whose duty it should have been to take charge of the office as well as all other telegraphic offices of the Government is not in entire accord with the management of the office. It is equally well known that Lieut. Pierson would have been relieved of what he terms his very important duties long ere this, were it not for the fact that the operators under him, being among the most experienced in the country, have themselves practically run the office to the satisfaction of the Government."

Said one of the men: "Briefly stated, our indictment is: We were promised everything when we gave up our positions, promotions, extra pay, etc. We received what the sports term, 'double cross.' Even ordinary vacation pay being denied. Of course we shall ask to have the matter investigated."

Operators Resign.
Late this afternoon the following operators of the day force handed in their resignations as the result, it is alleged, of their dissatisfaction with the conduct of the office:

Chief Operator L. M. Smith, Assistant Chief Samuel C. Wheeler, Preston B. Duff and W. M. Weber.

It is intimated that more resignations will follow when the members of the night force report for duty at 5 o'clock this evening.

Lieut. Pierson was seen by a reporter for The Times this afternoon and asked for a statement. He refused to make any reply to the charges of the operators.

Strangled at Play.
Reading, Pa., Aug. 25.—Irwin H. Gehari, the eight-months-old son of Irwin Gehari, of Leesport, met death yesterday morning by strangulation. The child was put on the front porch to see what the child was doing, when she was hurriedly found by her baby wedged fast between two posts. The child was dead from strangulation.

Tobacco-Using Ministers Barred.
Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 25.—The Central Ohio conference of the Christian Church adopted unanimously yesterday a resolution barring from the conference any minister who uses tobacco in any form.

Baltimore and Return via R. & O.
Tickets good going on all trains Saturday and Sunday, August 27 and 28, valid to return until following Monday.
a25,26,27,28

Best Carpenters Buy Their Lumber at Libby & Co., 6th and N. Y. Ave.

HOSPITALS IN PORTO RICO.

Severe Criticisms by an Ohio Colonel of Volunteer.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 25.—Col. A. B. Colt, of the Fourth Ohio, has written home a letter criticizing the hospital arrangements in Porto Rico. The letter, which is dated Guayama, August 15, says: "I am glad that we will soon be at home, for if we stay here every man who goes to the general hospital will die. We can take care of our sick, but are not permitted to do so."

"They must be sent to the general hospital to be neglected and starved. It is awful. Doctors Somans and Wright, of our regiment, and the surgeons of the Fourth Pennsylvania and Third Illinois have all protested. Col. Cane, of the Fourth Pennsylvania, and Surgeon Shaw, of the Third Illinois, are under arrest because they protested against the present plan. I am not arrested, but you know it has not been my fault."

BOY HURLED THIRTY FEET.

In Attempting to Escape One Danger He Enters Another.

Reading, Pa., Aug. 25.—George Van Billard, aged seven, was in danger of being run down by a runaway team at Second and Grape Streets yesterday afternoon when in getting out of the way he stepped in front of a Wilmington and Northern train. The engine struck the lad and hurled him about thirty feet. He was unconscious when picked up and it was found that he had sustained three ugly cuts on his head besides numerous body bruises. But slight hopes are entertained for his recovery.

ORDERED TO BREAK CAMP

Soldiers at Fernandina Will Be Moved to Huntsville.

SICKNESS IN THE RANKS

Troops About to Be Mustered Out of Service Are Ordered to Hastily Change Their Quarters—Sanitary Condition of the Tented City Is Worse Than Hitherto Reported.

Fernandina is another of the camps that is to be abandoned on account of its unhealthfulness. The following order was sent by the adjutant general's office to Gen. Coppinger early this morning:

"Gen. Coppinger, Huntsville, Ala.: 'You will give orders for the removal of all of your corps now at Fernandina to Huntsville or vicinity. This movement should be expedited in every way possible.'"

There have been assertions in the newspaper dispatches for several days that Fernandina is full of sickness, but the War Department has done everything possible to discredit the stories. They are now acknowledged to be true.

Fever is prevalent. It is not believed there is any yellow fever, but typhoid is breaking out all over the camp. The conditions have been growing worse daily.

Huntsville is one of the new camps recently established. It is believed to be absolutely healthful. Many of the Chickamauga regiments have also been sent there as announced heretofore in The Times.

Nearly all the Fernandina troops are on the list scheduled to be mustered out. They have only a few weeks more service, and the fact that they are to be transferred at this late date shows how pressing the War Department considers the need of abandoning Fernandina.

The list of troops at Fernandina is as follows: First Florida, Second Georgia, Fifth Maryland, Third Pennsylvania, One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Indiana, Second New York, Third, Thirtieth, Second Michigan, Sixty-ninth New York and Third Ohio.

NAVAL ORDERS.

Commodore Remy to Succeed Rear Admiral Carpenter at Portsmouth.

Rear Admiral C. C. Carpenter, retired, has been detached from the command of the navy yard at Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered home. Commodore G. C. Remy, who has been in command of the naval base at Key West, has been ordered to relieve Admiral Carpenter as commandant at Portsmouth, N. H.

Lieut. Commander W. J. Barnette has been given two months sick leave.

Lieut. Commander H. Winslow has been ordered to return to the command of the ship, when he is released from the hospital at Newport, R. I.

The naval orders today contain the official publication of the promotions recently given by the War Department. The other officers at Manila for their gallant service during the recent bombardment. Each of the following is advanced five ranks:

Ensign W. P. Scott, Naval Cadet W. R. White, Lieut. Benj. Tappen, Lieut. T. M. Brumby and Ensign H. H. Caldwell.

Lieut. James H. Higginson has been detached from the command of the Albatross and ordered to the Independence.

Lieut. Frank K. Hill has been detached from the Iowa and ordered to the Bureau of Equipment.

Lieut. J. E. Morse, retired, detached from the Michigan and ordered home.

Lieut. R. P. Carroll has been detached from the Newark and ordered home.

Ensign J. R. Burrell has been detached from the Vicksburg and ordered home.

Lieut. W. L. R. Emmet, C. E. Lothrop and T. H. Newberry have been honorably discharged from the navy.

Lieut. W. E. Gunn has been detached from the command of the Vigilant and ordered to the headquarters of the Ninth District Auxiliary Naval Force at San Francisco, Cal.

Federalists in Hungary.
Budapest, Aug. 25.—A number of agitators met at Carlsbad recently and decided to promote a Federalist movement following this decision by the appointment of a committee to further the object. The matter has attracted very little attention here until today when the newspapers came out in violent opposition to the movement.

We Sell the Best Wheelwright Oak.
white, clear, dry, seasoned; only 40 foot.

SIXTEEN MARINERS LOST

French Fishing Schooner Sunk by the Steamship Norge.

FATAL COLLISION AT SEA

Disaster in a Fog Off Newfoundland. Only Nine Out of Twenty-five of a Sailing Vessel's Crew Rescued. Nobody on the Other Vessel Injured.

New York, Aug. 25.—The Thingvalla Line steaming Norge sunk the French fishing schooner La Coquette, of Bayonne, France, on Saturday last, August 20, on the Grand Banks. The captain and eight seamen were saved; sixteen went down with the unfortunate vessel.

The Norge sailed from Stettin and Copenhagen August 10, Christina August 11 and Christiansand August 12, with seven first and thirty-three second cabin passengers and 143 stowage passengers. The weather was generally fine to the Banks, off Newfoundland, when it became foggy. On Saturday, August 20, between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the weather was foggy, but not so thick that the vessel's speed was reduced. Capt. Knudsen said he could see about three cable lengths ahead. The wind was fairly brisk from the west-southwest when a vessel suddenly loomed up from the north with sails full, and stood directly across the bow of the steamer. The bells were rung to stop and back at full speed, but too late to check the steamer's headway to a full stop.

The stranger, a fishing schooner, fell across the bow and with a crash was forced over and sunk. As the impact occurred three men sprang aboard of the Norge. The passengers of the Norge, most of whom were about the decks, rushed about in confusion with alarm at the shock, but soon quieted when they learned that the steamship was uninjured.

In the meantime, a boat was lowered and six men and a dog were picked up. The fishing vessel sank almost immediately and in sinking carried with her sixteen of her crew. Among those saved was the captain.

Capt. Knudsen, of the Norge, said that as a steam vessel he was obliged to keep out of the way of all sailing craft, but that this was a time when the sailing vessel could do more to help herself than the steamer. The latter was going ahead at full speed, for the fog was not, in the judgment of the captain, sufficient to reduce headway. The fishermen were an active vessel, had a good breeze and was under good steerage way but made no attempt to avoid the collision, keeping his sails full until squarely under the bow. The collision occurred so suddenly that the steamship's headway could not be stopped promptly. The large hull of the Norge should have been visible for a long distance. This is the substance of Capt. Knudsen's statement.

THE NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS.
Governor Voorhees Urges That They Be Mustered Out.

Elizabeth, N. J., Aug. 25.—Governor Voorhees, who returned from Washington last night, where he had been to consult with the War Department concerning the mustering out of the New Jersey State volunteers, said this morning that nothing definite had been accomplished, but that by the end of the week he expected to hear from the department.

"I strongly believe," said Governor Voorhees, "that every volunteer who wishes to return should now be mustered out. I believe the War Department will do so soon. The troops at Sea Girt will stay there until that time comes."

As the governor was talking, he opened a letter from the War Department, a copy of the State which stated that nine-tenths of the members were heartily in favor of his mustering out plan.

MARYLAND TROOPS.

Sick Volunteers Will Be Taken to Baltimore in Hospital Cars.

Baltimore, Aug. 25.—The bringing home of the sick soldiers of the Fifth and First Maryland Regiments is to be undertaken by the State. Gov. Lowndes has authorized Brigadier General Lawson Riggs, who is acting adjutant general, to take charge of the movement of the men from the hospitals; they are now in to Baltimore.

Gen. Riggs was busy yesterday communicating with the railroads to arrange for the required transportation. The expense of moving the men to Baltimore will be paid out of the emergency war appropriation made by the last legislature. Some difficulty was experienced in getting the desired cars.

The State of Pennsylvania has sent ten special trains South to bring home sick soldiers belonging to the volunteer regiments from that State. One of these trains passed through Baltimore yesterday, making a short stop at Union Station. This train is to bring back the sick of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment, who live in Philadelphia.

The resources of the State military departments will be used by Gen. Riggs to facilitate the movement of the Maryland sick from the crowded military hospitals to the City Hospital in Baltimore. An entire new ward is being fitted up for the use of the men at the City Hospital and supplies of bed linen and blankets will be needed for this purpose. The donations of money and supplies which have been made will not be needed for the men on route to Baltimore, as the State will furnish whatever is needed. It is the purpose of the committee of physicians, who started the movement of the sick, to bring the men while being treated in the hospital with whatever further donations may be made.

Dr. J. M. T. Finney, associate surgeon of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, will go to Huntsville on the hospital train. He will take with him two nurses and four hospital orderlies.

Flynn's Business College, 8th and N. Y. Ave., short-hand, typewriting—25 a yr.

Breakfast 10c. and 25c. at Le Petra's.

A. O. H. Norfolk excursion, Aug. 27. See ad page 6.

Wheelwright Oak, any thickness 1, 1 1/2, 2, 3, 4 inches; the best; 40 foot.

The Weather—Libby & Co. say—Thundershowers tonight.

La Petra's, Eleventh and G Streets—meals 25c.

This Is Your Chance to Buy clear, seasoned Wheelwright Oak, 40 foot.

Only 40 foot for Wheelwright Oak that's clear, white, dry and seasoned.

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A PEDDLER STONED TO DEATH.

Race Troubles in Soldier Camps at Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 25.—A negro peddler was stoned to death in the camp yesterday and two others were badly injured. One will die.

The trouble started Tuesday night when Quartermaster Sergeant Jacob Frank, of the Ninth New York, was shocked under a pain at Chattanooga, by a negro named Catroila, and fatally injured. The members of the regiment swore they would kill any colored person caught in the vicinity of their camp.

Yesterday two colored peddlers took up their usual stand near the regiment. They were immediately surrounded by an angry mob of soldiers armed with clubs and stones. The colored men attempted to escape, but a fusillade of rocks stopped them. One of the men was killed and the other received injuries that it is thought will prove fatal. A negro plevendor vented his anger on the First New Hampshire later on. The wagon was immediately looted and the owner mobbed and but for the timely arrival of the guard would have been lynched.

It is known also that several members of the Cabinet are desirous of getting at the bottom of the charges for one reason. That is, because the President himself and his Administration are to an extent held accountable. It is believed from several statements made by Cabinet officers and other friends of President McKinley that he is anxious to have affairs in the War Department looked into.

It has been the hope of many in the War Department that Secretary Alger himself, as the head of the office, and the man most directly responsible for the general conduct of the war plans, would order the investigation. Secretary Alger has left the city for an indefinite time, however, and his most intimate assistants do not know anything of his plans. It is said that he may even remain away for a month or more. It is not believed now that he contemplates doing anything whatever toward making a real search for the incompetents in his department.

The fact that he has refused the investigation requested by Surgeon General Sternberg, is believed to indicate his attitude in the matter. Open letters, bulletins and reports have been issued in large numbers and are still under course of preparation but it is perceived by all army officers and others who really desire to know the truth that these only give one side of the story and are simply in the nature of an argument for the defense, the other side not being represented.

The two officers who are relied on as probable investigators of the investigation are Gen. Miles, the commanding general in the army and Col. Theodore Roosevelt, the officer who received the severe reprimand from Secretary Alger for telling the truth about Santiago.

It is understood that both Gen. Miles and Col. Roosevelt have gathered facts and statistics about the situation at Santiago during and after the surrender of the city in addition to their own observations and experiences. Friends of both these officers are confident that they will insist on making them public.

Nothing positive can be learned as to the time when they will come to Washington. Gen. Miles was expected to leave Porto Rico early this week, but he is still detained.

BODY HORRIBLY MANGLED.
Reading Woman Run Down by an Engine and Killed.

Reading, Pa., Aug. 25.—A horrible accident occurred at 9 o'clock yesterday morning at the Spring Street crossing of the Reading Railroad. A woman was run over and killed. She was carrying a large basket on her head and was attempting to cross over in front of the engine when she was struck and horribly mangled. Both legs were cut off above the knees, her left hand was crushed and her head badly cut and bruised. She only lived several minutes.

HANGED IN HIS CELL.
Prisoner in Unlawtown Jail Commits Suicide.

Unlawtown, Pa., Aug. 25.—Henry Bolton, colored, a prisoner in the county jail, hanged himself in his cell yesterday evening. Bolton twisted a towel into a rope and choked to death.

He was placed in jail from Dunbar for surety of the peace preferred by his wife, who, when she visited him Tuesday, said he acted crazy. Bolton told another prisoner that four criminal charges were against him at Pittsburgh, where he lately stayed, and it is supposed these troubles caused his act.

RECEPTION FOR SAMPSON.
Citizens of Glen Ridge Are Arranging for a Demonstration.

Glen Ridge, N. J., Aug. 25.—The citizens of Glen Ridge held an informal meeting at the Glen Ridge Club last night to arrange for a reception to Admiral Sampson. A committee of fifty leading citizens was appointed by Mayor Riedel to have charge of the demonstration. It will be held in the clubhouse, probably next Saturday night.

Admiral Sampson left his home in Clark Street early this morning for Tompkinsville, R. I.

JAMES W. BARR ARRESTED.
An Alleged Embellisher Caught by Detectives in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Aug. 25.—James W. Barr, wanted in Baltimore on the charge of embezzlement and larceny, was captured on the street in this city this morning by Detectives Bond and Murray. Murray approached Barr and greeted him familiarly, mentioning his (Barr's) name. Barr said:

"You are mistaken."

"Don't you know me?" said Murray. "Are you not Jimmy Barr, of Baltimore?"

"Yes, I am," said Barr, "but I don't know you."

Barr was taken to the city hall and held without bail to await requisition papers from Baltimore.

Barr had been employed as bookkeeper and secretary and treasurer of the Electro-Photo-Engraving Company of Baltimore, which concern was forced to assign about eighteen months ago through Barr's alleged degenerations.

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HOPING FOR AN INQUIRY

Officials Anxious for an Investigation of Miles' Charges.

WANT THE BLAME FIXED

A Carious Feature Is That Secretary Alger Has Not Yet Thought Proper to Order a Board to Delve into the Various Complaints of Mismanagement.

About the War Department the question is asked more and more frequently, "Will there be an investigation, and who will investigate?" Many of the army officers who suffer directly and indirectly from the charges of incompetency, carelessness and even criminality in the management of the war are in favor of a rigid general investigation that shall fix the blame where it belongs and relieve the innocent.

It is known also that several members of the Cabinet are desirous of getting at the bottom of the charges for one reason. That is, because the President himself and his Administration are to an extent held accountable. It is believed from several statements made by Cabinet officers and other friends of President McKinley that he is anxious to have affairs in the War Department looked into.

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ADMIRAL SCHLEY ON DUTY.

Reports on the Brooklyn Before Departing for Washington.